

DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES

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December 30, 2002

To: Cultural Resources Work Group Participants

Subject: Cultural Resources Work Group December 2002 Update/
January 2003 Cultural Resources Work Group Meeting Cancellation
Oroville Facilities Relicensing Program
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission Project No. 2100

As agreed upon in Action Item #C45 at the November 12, 2002 Work Group Meeting, the Department of Water Resources is providing the enclosed update in lieu of the December Cultural Resources Work Group Meeting.

Please note that the January Cultural Resources Work Group Meeting, tentatively scheduled for January 21, 2003, has been cancelled. A monthly update of activities conducted during January will be supplied to participants by January 31, 2003, in lieu of the meeting.

The next Cultural Resources Work Group Meeting will be held February 18, 2003, at a location to be determined.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact me at (916) 654-4422.

Sincerely,

Christina Acken, Senior Engineer, WR
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Enclosures

Distribution List: (See attached list.)

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**FERC RELICENSING OF THE OROVILLE FACILITY
CULTURAL RESOURCES WORK GROUP
DECEMBER 2002 UPDATE**

The last Cultural Resources Work Group (CRWG) meeting was held at Mooretown Rancheria on November 12, 2002. At that meeting it was agreed that summaries of activities conducted during December would be distributed to the CRWG in a monthly update in lieu of holding a regular meeting. This document provides that summary and fulfills the obligations of Action Item #C45, as identified in the meeting notes posted for the November CRWG meeting.

The January CRWG meeting, tentatively scheduled for January 21, 2003, has been cancelled. A monthly update of activities conducted during January will be supplied in its place. The next CRWG meeting will be held February 18, 2003, at a location to be determined.

Study Plan C-1 Update

The archaeological survey portion of Study Plan C-1 was completed during the first weeks of the month, just before the first big storm of the season hit. Completing the survey is a significant accomplishment by all those involved in the effort, both in the field and in the office, and they deserve a round of applause. After thousands of hours in the field, a total of 778 archaeological sites were recorded. This includes 276 prehistoric sites, 430 historic sites and 72 multi-component sites. Of the 213 previously recorded sites, 173 (or 81%) have been re-recorded and updated. Most of the 40 remaining previously known sites are located under water.

Approximately 12,622 acres were covered during the survey, both in the fluctuation zone (7500 acres) and above the high water level (5122 acres).

All of the above numbers will be refined during the month of January to provide the most accurate accounting of the inventory possible.

Following completion of the survey, the immediate focus for archaeology under C-1 has switched to data entry for all of the recorded sites and the development of site records. In addition, laboratory work (cleaning and cataloguing) on the prehistoric materials collected in the field has begun.

Regarding historical research, integration of maps and homestead and mine information with the GIS data bank is complete. Contextual research for historic themes such as gold mining, settlement and agriculture is ongoing. Construction of a master data base of individual names of settlers within the APE is underway. Site-specific history

research is on-going, combining historical ownership, census data and mining records information for each historical resource. Analysis of the data will begin in January.

The ethnographic studies team continued conducting interviews throughout the month. They are making steady progress and are collecting a great deal of valuable information.

Maidu Advisory Council Update

The Maidu Advisory Council met on Wednesday, December 4, 2002. The agenda was brief. The meeting began with a review of the minutes from the previous meeting in October, as the November meeting was cancelled. The Advisory Council was then provided with an update on the cultural resources fieldwork (see above).

The second major topic on the agenda was development of the Cultural Resources Management Plan. This discussion followed the outline provided to the CRWG at the November 12, 2002 meeting.

The January MAC meeting will be held on January 22, 2003.

Prepared and submitted by Janis Offermann, DWR Cultural Resources FERC Relicensing Resource Area Manager.
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